



**1131st meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**
7:30PM Wednesday July 28, 2010
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California



Jesuit Medals
Sal Falcone

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
Box 475656 San Francisco, CA 94147-5656
Bulletin Editor: Michael Wehner

Please join us July 28, 2010 to hear Sal Falcone tell us about the medals from California Jesuit Schools. Sal is well known to Bay Area numismatists for his frequent appearances at local coin shows and for his family coin shop in San Jose.

1129th meeting May 26, 2010. The first and last San Francisco Mint Morgan dollars *David McCarthy*

(reviewed by Herb) David J. McCarthy, Senior Numismatist at Kagins, gave a very nice presentation entitled, "Bookends, First and Last Morgan Dollar Presentation Pieces." David told us the story of the very first and very last Morgan Dollars minted as presentation pieces.

On March 11, 1878, at about 3:17 pm, special dies were used to strike the first Morgan dollars. David believes these few pieces were hand struck for various officials, including one that was given to President Rutherford B. Hayes. The design is slightly different from the regular Morgan design, a difference readily apparent when seen side by side. From his research and examination, he doesn't believe them to be proofs, but blanks were prepared carefully and the striking may have been done multiple times to bring up the design.

The bookend coin is the Farran Zerbe 1921 S Morgan Presentation piece. PCNS founder Zerbe, apparently as part of his lobbying for introduction of the Peace dollar, convinced the San Francisco mint to strike presentation pieces of the then current Morgan dollar. Evidence that this event occurred comes from PCNS notes in an early Numismatist where it mentions that Zerbe brought a handful of "special" Morgans to a regular meeting and offered them for purchase to those attending!

Only a few of the 25 or so struck were sold then, but not all so hope springs eternal in our hearts that one of us may make a lucky find one day!

1130th meeting. June 19, 2010. Annual Banquet The Pacific Coast Numismatic Society convened on June 19, 2010 at about 6:00 pm at The Gold Mirror Restaurant in San Francisco, California, for our Annual Banquet.

Many members followed recent tradition and sported Hawaiian shirts in honor of summer in San Francisco, sister city to the entire Hawaiian Isles.

We raised a glass for departed but not forgotten members, Gordon Donnell and Lori Reppeteau, and to those who could not attend due to illness, age or distance.

And we celebrated the occasion by having a fine time at the Sunset District Italian restaurant; conversation was lively; drinks flowed freely and Bingo was played after dinner!!

Many fine prizes, donated by the attendees, graced the prize tables, from mini-coins to tokens and outstanding memorabilia in the grand tradition of PCNS Bingos of years past!

Everyone had such a fine time that we should do it again next year!! (And thanks to our Bingo-meister extraordinaire, Herb).

May 2010 Exhibits

Federico brought a very nice 1 ½ centavos token from a Nicaraguan water company and asked what would that buy and would the vendor come to your door or would you go somewhere to get the water?!

Herb brought seven old postcards mailed from the Anglo-Californian Bank in San Francisco addressed to several different banks in Lakeport, CA.

Michael brought four items to share; 1) a letter from Scott Griffin thanking us for PCNS participation in his San Francisco Mint Coin Show mentioning that at least 700 persons attended over the two days!; 2) a couple of Morgan Dollars, one with ugly toning or tarnish, 3) a Norse-American octagonal medal acquired in an attempt to buy an 1848 Cal 2 ½ dollar gold piece at auction (no luck!); and 4) a fob probably from the PPIE as it features a nice grizzly bear.

Catz showed off his 1936 San Francisco Bay Bridge commemorative half dollar, a coin featuring a California Grizzly Bear, supposedly modeled from several different bears held in captivity!

Ken explained that in researching whether one of Dan's unknown pieces was a Chinese coin or token, he determined after asking his wife and others, that the piece was actually Japanese from the Tempō Era (1833-1848). Ken also brought a nice but pricey Shanghai Expo Coin Set commemorating the fair, which opened on 5/1/10 and will close on 10/31/10.

Dan exhibited a 1936 Quezon Murphy peso; a 1973 Netherlands Antilles coin commemorating the Queen's ascending to the throne; and a clipped and squared countermarked 8 real Atocha shipwreck piece!

Steve explained that Whalen's river Thames recovered so-called gold "coin" was probably a button or other decorative embossed metallic piece and not a coin; and Steve exhibited a Ptolemy II bronze with a countermark that does not resemble any noted in the literature, it is not a Trident as it does not have 3 prongs, but 2, so what is the countermark?! More information to come I am sure.

Whalen brought a number of interesting items from his U. S. Grant collection; a U.S Mint piece (a plain effort in his opinion); a white metal "Death Medal," a medal celebrating the joining of the Transcontinental Railroad at Promontory Point, Utah (begun prior Grant's presidency, but he appears to be taking full credit); several Grant commemorative half dollars and a Grant 2 ½ dollar gold piece, and a very well preserved partially leather-bound Grant memoirs obtained in a book shop!

May 2010 Raffle

The following prizes were won by lucky folks attending the meeting:

- 1) 3 Volume Washington Quarter set of books by James Wiles to Whalen
- 2) 1985 Proof Set to Federico
- 3) 1939 GGIE Commemorative Spoon to Whalen
- 4) PPIE Postcard to Sandra
- 5) Another PPIE Postcard to new member Andrea
- 6) Booklet on Stamps and Stamp collecting to Dan
- 7) G. Washington Bicentennial Medal to Andrea!

A message from the US Mint

Dear Coin Enthusiast:

You are cordially invited to join the United States Mint on Wednesday, July 28, 2010, at the Yosemite Valley Visitor's Center, Yosemite National Park, for a numismatic forum from 6:30pm – 7:30pm in conjunction with the public release of the Yosemite National Park commemorative quarter-dollar.

United States Mint Director Moy will host the forum. Similar collector meetings held on the eve of recent quarter launch ceremonies have proven to be both lively and illuminating, covering a wide array of issues that are important to both the casual collector and the serious numismatist.

Please share this information with any other clubs, collectors or friends - all ages are welcome. These collector forums are a great way to build excitement and enthusiasm for your state quarter.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Meals Vitelli

Division Chief

Office of External Relations and Communication

United States Mint

P.S. If you or members of your club will be attending this event, please RSVP to (202) 354-7698, or e-mail

ddawson@usmint.treas.gov.